

APR 20 1964

# AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY, INC.

219 EAST 42ND STREET • NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017 • MURRAY HILL 6-4300

April 17, 1964

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics  
Stanford University  
Medical Center  
Palo Alto, California

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

Thank you for your letter.

In planning our current prospective study, I gave considerable thought to the possibility of obtaining information of value in relation to genetics. Some of the questions on the questionnaire were included with this in mind. However, because of limitations of space and certain other considerations, I was unable to include as many details as I desired.

I am enclosing copies of the questionnaire (one for men and another for women) so you can see what is available. The first page of both questionnaires is largely devoted to questions on grandparents, parents, and siblings. The third page of the questionnaire for women has questions on childbearing. On follow-up questionnaires, we obtain some information on later pregnancies, and in New York State we are looking up the hospital birth records of children born to women included in our study. On a separate form, we have information on the relationships of subjects in the same households.

As you may see, we have several of the pieces of information you suggested; but not all of them.

We have a record of the status (i.e. alive or dead) and present age (or age at time of death) of each brother and sister. We also have a record of the age of the subject's parents at the time the subject was born. From this, it would usually be possible to ascertain the birth rank of the subject. However, it would not be possible in all cases (e.g. in cases where siblings died in childhood).

This particular study includes far more information on environment than on heredity. For a long time, I have had tentative plans for a large scale study of heredity in relation to cancer



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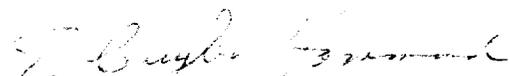
Dr. Joshua Lederberg

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and other old age diseases. I should enjoy discussing it with you, perhaps at some time when I am in California or you are in New York.

Sincerely,



E. Cuyler Hammond, Sc. D.  
Director  
Statistical Research Section  
Medical Affairs Department

Enclosures